



Camp kicks off with a bang!

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wraps up APFT
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leadership lessons
at FLRC**

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Commander's Comments

A hearty welcome to the cadets, cadre, and support soldiers arriving for the ROTC national Advanced Camp 2001! 1st Regiment is well along in their training - about to embark on Squad Situational Training Exercises. 7th Regiment is just forming and organizing itself. All of you cadets are going through that challenging process of creating a coherent, functional platoon from 48 strangers who a few short days ago stood in the in-processing line wondering how this was all going to turn out.

Each of you will find some sort of challenge at Advanced Camp - whether that be physical, emotional, or inter-personal. Some are eager to plunge into the daily training regimen; others are a little apprehensive about your skills and how you will perform. Some of you relish going to the field; others are a little concerned about spending nights in the Pacific Northwest's 120-foot-tall Dou-



Col. Daniel S. Challis

glas Fir forests. Regardless of your expectations and worries, your experiences during the 32 days of Advanced Camp will play a key part in your personal and professional growth.

What you learn here at Fort Lewis about yourself, about your fellow cadets, and about the Army depends largely on how good a team player you choose to be. I challenge each of you to give 100 percent of yourself to making your platoon the best in your regiment. Your enjoyment of Advanced Camp will hinge on your willingness to contribute to your squad and platoon's success.

I wish you the very best and look forward to seeing you at graduation on Watkins Field.

“Ruck up and move out!”

NCO Notes

The 2001 ROTC Advanced Camp is up and running exceptionally well. We have seven regiments on the ground, and all but one committee has received its cadets. Since we anticipate training more than 4,000 cadets this year, the regiments are much larger than last year. As I watched six consecutive regiments execute the APFT, I've been impressed by the motivation and performance of each. In the last year I have used this column as a vehicle to drive home the importance of physical conditioning. It's clear that many of you have listened and accepted the personal challenge and responsibility associated with PT. The APFT is a keystone event - it allows you to demonstrate that you are prepared, ready and focused.

I'll take this opportunity to recognize the individual male and female high scores from each regiment. They have clearly exceeded the standard.

1st Regiment; Nathan Hagemeyer, 382, Elisabeth Hurley, 349

2nd Regiment; James Taylor, 348, Megan Leone, 331



Command Sgt. Maj. Lewis Ferguson

3rd Regiment; David Kang, 366, Melissa Tan, 352

4th regiment; Steven Ferraro, 350, Ginger Hammerquist, 325

5th Regiment; Andrew Szymczak, 352, Christine Gritzke, 366

6th Regiment; Jonathan Welsh, 355, Courtney Stephenson, 367

Congratulations on a job well done. These top performers on the APFT clearly set the standard for all. As a word of advice: when you prepare for camp and are reviewing the packing list, remember to include your push-ups, sit-ups and at least one 2-mile run. If you don't bring them from home, they won't be issued here. In closing, I wish you good luck in every endeavor and look forward to seeing you all, whether here at Fort Lewis or on your campus.

“See you on the high ground. Camp-9, Out.”

Drug testing with urinalysis keeps Army clean

By 2nd Lt. Jenny Hurrle

At 5:30 a.m., Building 11D39 on North Fort Lewis looks more like a dance club than the ROTC Advanced Camp Tactical Operations Center. Nothing is remotely tactical - or subtle - about staff sergeants, second lieutenants, master sergeants and lieutenant colonels squirming and gyrating as they wait to contribute a urine specimen to Uncle Sam. Like the cadets they will train, mentor and evaluate, these soldiers momentarily twitch like Ricky Martin as participants in a program designed to enhance the Army's readiness and combat effectiveness. Besides reinforcing the health, welfare and morale of the force, the strict procedure they must follow also sends their urine on an unaccompanied tour to Hawaii.

Urinalysis is the primary tool in creating and maintaining drug-free armed forces and is a program so successful that, according to Department of Defense statistics, no other segment of American society has a smaller proportion of drug users. While not totally error-free, the program is still the best way to identify and eliminate illegal drug-use from the


ranks. Because the program is critical to Army readiness and involves serious legal issues, it is strictly regulated and controlled.

Urinalysis transforms the urine, so casually donated to Port-o-Lets and trees around North Fort Lewis, into an accountable item. From the moment a donor takes possession of an empty bottle until the specimen sits in the shade of palm trees at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, a strict chain of custody is enforced. To ensure the authenticity of each sample, designated soldiers earn the privileged title of "Observer." These individuals guarantee that the spring flows fresh from the source and remains completely free of outside contamination that could cause a false positive test result.

Two such appointees, 2nd Lt. James Bishop and 2nd Lt. Stephanie Lowrance, are graduates of Fort Lewis' Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Program (ADAPCP) and Advanced Camp 2000 alumni. They want to ensure urinalysis is a fulfilling experience for everyone involved. They verify that the receptacle is empty before accepting it and

that the tested individual keeps the bottle in his or her sight as well as in view of the observer at all times. Because each sample must measure at least 45 milliliters, Bishop also stresses the importance of hydration.

"Make sure you are prepared to go on your own or else the Army will help you," said Bishop. Plenty of drinking water is available to stimulate the process.

Bishop and Biochemical Test Technician Dave Miller agree on an important aspect of urinalysis etiquette. As Miller says, "We aim to please, so please watch your aim." Bishop said a common problem is when the bottle gets wet on the outside. Not only does a dripping label hinder handling but it also interferes with legibility. In some cases this disqualifies a sample, forcing the donor to give again. By 8:30 a.m., the urinalysis ends and a sigh of relief echoes throughout the Advanced Camp TOC. A small army of sealed yellow jars sits dress-right-dress, waiting to be delivered to the ADAPCP office. There they will spend the night behind bars before beginning the journey to Honolulu. 

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ADVANCED CAMP COMMANDER
Col. Daniel S. Challis

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ROTC Advanced Camp receives first cadets

By Capt. Woody Stone

As surely as the rain returned to the Pacific Northwest June 10, so too did the first wave of Army ROTC cadets, who began arriving then for summer training at the 2001 ROTC Advanced Camp on North Fort Lewis. The 1st ROTC Regiment, affiliated with the 37th Field Artillery, received 395 cadets for inprocessing and immediately started their training cycle, which began with Sunday morning physical exams at Madigan Army Medical Center.

From June 9 to Aug. 9, more than 4,300 Army ROTC cadets will participate in the Army’s only national ROTC Advanced Camp, held annually here at Fort Lewis since 1997. Nearly 400 cadets will arrive every three days to form 11 regiments. Additionally, more than 380 officer candidates from Army National Guard units around the country will conduct concurrent training at the camp.

These Army cadets, most of whom are juniors in colleges from across the nation, will participate in a rigorous 32-day leadership development course - a requirement for ROTC cadets to become officers in the U.S. Army. At camp completion, the cadets return to their campuses, preparing next year’s cadets for Advanced Camp 2002. They will then graduate and receive their commissions. Some cadets have finished their curriculum already and will be commissioned at the end of camp.

Training at Advanced Camp progresses from individual to collective skills, with committees teaching a wide variety of associated tasks. Cadre members first evaluate the cadets’ physical endurance by giving them the Army Physi-



Capt. Woody Stone


Hundreds of new cadets line up on a parade field for one of 11 regimental activations.

cal Fitness Test (APFT). Confidence training assists cadets with overcoming fear, testing their physical courage with rappelling, water safety training, one-rope bridge construction and a very challenging obstacle course. The next day cadets put their leadership skills on display at the Field Leadership Reaction Course, which is designed to build teamwork and evaluate leadership.

Other training committees include Basic Rifle Marksmanship, Automatic Weapons, Land Navigation, Fire Support, Hand Grenades, Nuclear-Biological-Chemical training and Individual Tactical Training. The collective training committees include Squad Situational Training Exercise (STX) and Patrolling STX lanes. Both committees focus on de-

veloping field craft among cadets.

Day 32 is the culmination of training as cadets assemble on Watkins Field to deactivate the regimental colors and march in their graduation ceremony. The 1st Regiment of cadets will graduate on July 10. All 11 ceremonies will occur on Watkins Field at 9 a.m. Family members are welcome to attend, but should allow enough time to register their vehicles at the Fort Lewis main gate.

Since its inception in 1916, ROTC has provided the Army with more than half a million lieutenants. Nationwide, 270 universities and colleges provide ROTC graduates who enter the Army each year as second lieutenants. 

Stay as sharp as your knife

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Thomas Joseph

“Molly, where is the sharp knife? All the knives in this kitchen drawer are so dull they won’t cut hot butter.” I’m sure you’ve made this statement many times in the kitchen. You start out with a sharp knife, but over time it becomes dulled through use or abuse.

Maybe you’ve tried slicing a tomato with a dull knife and all you get is a squished tomato. Or you try slicing a loaf of homemade bread and you get a crunched, punched, compacted density of leather. You find more success tearing the loaf by hand.

This subject of sharp knives is found in Proverbs 9:10 - “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.” You’ll find the knife in the word “understanding.”

Solomon, the wisest king and author of the Proverbs, teaches us that the reverence and worship of the Lord is the beginning or principal part of wisdom. If you want to become wise and knowledgeable, then start with submitting to and worshipping God. In the last half of this verse, Solomon states, “Knowledge of the Holy One (God) leads to understanding.” Note the connection between knowledge of God and understanding. One precedes the other; knowledge is the cause; understanding is the effect or result.

“But understanding what?” There are two answers: 1) obviously it is an understanding of God, but also 2) it means more - an understanding of life, issues, relationships and people. If you have a genuine knowledge of God, then you will gain understanding about how to live, how to judge, how to relate to people, how to evaluate their ideas, speech and actions.

Now let’s find that sharp knife hidden in that word “understanding.” This word in its root idea means to cut, divide, separate, distinguish, discern. The emphasis is on hearing a speech and being able to mentally cut through the fog and pretense. And if you do, then you gain “understanding,” knowledge. Understanding, therefore, is the RESULT of mental cutting, like a surgeon seeking to remove a tumor.

But if you’re using the very dull knife of mental slowness, then you can’t tell the difference between truth and error, reality and pretense. You get “sucked in” by fine-sounding words. You naively embrace false ideas, values or concepts. So, is your mind a sharp or dull knife?

“But I know a lot about God,” you claim. Maybe so; or maybe you don’t. A little knowledge of God equals a little understanding of Him and of life: that is the dull knife. A medium knowledge of God equals a medium understanding of Him and of life: a moderately dull knife. But a better knowledge of God equals a better understanding of Him and of life: now there’s the sharp knife.

Here’s the surprise: knowledge of God is more than mental facts stored in your memory; it extends to your behavior, speech and attitudes. This “knowledge” or “wisdom” means a life lived in conformity with God’s moral will because the spiritual man “fears, submits to and worships God.”

Only the spiritual man who loves God conforms his life to His moral standards, feeds on God’s Word and gains understanding. He alone can detect truth from error, pretense from reality, style from substance. The Apostle Paul writing to the Colossians (Colossians 2:4) said, “Let no one deceive you with fine-sounding arguments.” If your mind is a sharp knife, you won’t be deceived by seemingly good logic as you can discern truth from falsehood.

How much knowledge of the Holy One do you have? I’m not asking how much you’ve stored in your memory about God. Rather, are you living your life in conformity to God’s moral standards as taught in His Word? Chaplains are assigned to each regiment to help you gain fuller understanding of God, and to help you do His will. Although you have a busy schedule while you are here in Advanced Camp, seek God, get to know Him fully and gain understanding. Sharpen your spiritual knife by studying and obeying God’s Word - today. Then you will gain understanding - of God, of life, of relationships and of people.

Transforming Army issues new doctrine

By Joe Burlas

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) — The Army released two new field manuals June 14, on its 226th birthday, that provide a glimpse of how it will operate while transforming into a more strategically responsive and dominant force for the evolving security challenges of the new century.

One manual, FM 1, “The Army,” establishes Army doctrine, while FM 3-0, “Operations,” establishes how the Army will conduct activities across the full range of military operations.


“Both manuals reflect the fundamental changes occurring in the Army today, linking national strategy to Army strategy and operations,” said Col. Neal Anderson, chief of Strategic Planning, Concepts and Doctrine with the Army Staff’s Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans. “FM 1, the Army’s capstone manual, provides broad doctrinal guidance, while FM 3-0 builds on the guidance in FM 1 to establish doctrine for how the Army conducts military operations.”

FM 1 has four main parts: the Army in the profession of arms, how the Army fits into strategic and joint military operations, the Army’s core competencies and “the way ahead,” or the future of the Army.

“This manual reiterates the Army’s role to serve the nation, in war and peace, with a primacy of focus on fulfilling our non-negotiable contract with the American people — fighting and winning our nation’s wars,” Anderson said. “It articulates the Army’s core competencies, which are essential and enduring capabilities that define the Army’s contribution to our nation’s security.”

FM 3-0, the Army’s capstone warfighting manual, establishes doctrine across the range of military operations — peace, conflict and war, he said. It outlines those operations as offensive, defensive, and stability and support operations that can be performed simultaneously, Anderson said.

Linked to FM 1, FM 3-0 will guide the Army as it transforms into a force that will be more responsive, agile, versatile, lethal, survivable, sustainable and deployable, he said.

These field manuals are important because they establish doctrine for a doctrine-based Army, Anderson said. FM 1 replaces FM 100-1 and FM 3-0 replaces FM 100-5. The new numerical designation reflects the Army’s efforts to follow the Department of Defense’s system of numbering manuals, officials said. 

Learning the way of the gun

Like every U.S. Army soldier in the world, Advanced Camp cadets must be able to use their M-16 rifles

By 2nd Lt. James Gordon

Hitting targets with a rifle is one of the cornerstone skills of the soldier, regardless of rank or branch of service. Cadets are no exception, so 15 hours of basic rifle marksmanship (BRM) training is among the most crucial parts of Advanced Camp.

During the course of BRM instruction, cadets are taught the characteristics of the basic Army M-16 rifle, the fundamentals of marksmanship, and the ability to correct the rifle's malfunctions. All of these skills are essential to ensure that cadets qualify as marksmen during their record-fire. To qualify, a cadet must score 23 out of a possible 40 hits. The record-fire portion of the training is difficult, with multiple pop-up targets ranging from 50 to 300 meters away, so learning the basics first is important.

The BRM committee cadre, commanded by Lt. Col. Donald Craig of West Maryland University, prepare cadets for success using briefings and various practice drills. The first part of the day involves briefings on the theory behind rifle marksmanship. Later, cadets put that theory into practice using techniques that test their trigger squeeze and sight picture, like practicing hold, position, trigger pull and sight picture.

Next, cadets zero their rifles on a 25-meter range. Every rifle must be zeroed because the sights are adjusted to fit the

sighting form of each individual shooter. Cadets adjust their sights based on the results of each three-round group they shoot on the zero range.

Zeroing can be as much a challenge as record-fire. Still, most cadets were confident they could meet the standard. Cadet Nicolai Birch, of Pittsburg State University, said, "Getting used to it is sometimes hard." He added, however, that he was confident that he would qualify.

Capt. Kimberly Norris-Jones, of the 108th Division, felt that the standards on the zero and record fire ranges were demanding, but definitely attainable. Her unit, which is based in Columbia, S.C., is operating the BRM Committee. She said, "My soldiers have plenty of patience and instruction experience and we'll get them (the cadets) through." Norris-Jones also noted that, as an ROTC graduate, it felt great to come back and contribute to the development of future officers.

For some cadets, however, the passing score remains elusive. That's where the Weaponeer, a firing simulator, comes in. The Weaponeer uses a real M-16 rifle at-



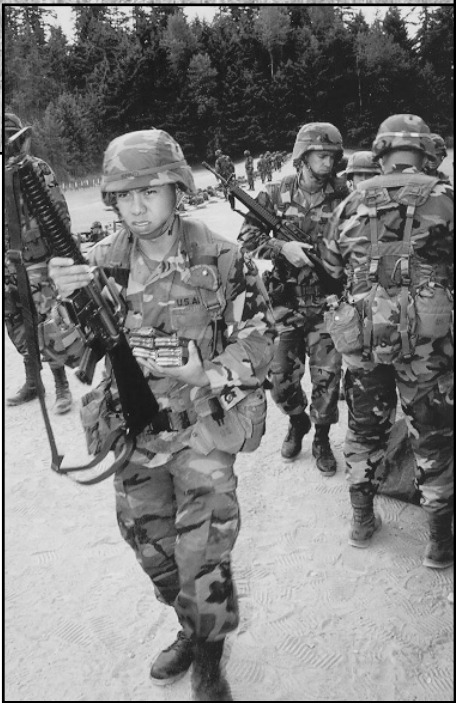
Cadet John Baschoff of the University of Dayton takes aim with the Weaponeer.



Carefully balancing a dime on the muzzle of an M-16 held by Cadet Timothy Lohse of Gannon University, Cadet Heather Warner will take her turn at the Dime/Washer drill next.

tached to a complex computer system that can track changes in the shooter's behavior to determine the cause of any problem. It can fire as many times as are necessary and comes complete with simulated recoil. This system is very effective in diagnosing problems with trigger squeeze, positioning, and other marksmanship fundamentals.

BRM is an important part of both camp and an Army career. For that reason, the cadre at the site are from schools and training units dedicated to the task of instructing the future warrior leaders of America.



Holding a fistful of loaded magazines, Cadet Francisco Naputi of the University of Guam waits for his turn on the zeroing range.

Wrestlers grapple with camp challenges

By Cadet Melanie Meyer
University of Northern Iowa

While all the cadets at the 2001 ROTC Advanced Camp will wrestle with many challenges during their time at Fort Lewis, two University of Northern Iowa cadets have already distinguished themselves as accomplished wrestlers.

Dayton Erickson, a General Industrial and Technology major, and Frank Cortez, a Criminology major both said they were able to manage college level wrestling, ROTC, working and earning a degree by being dedicated to success. Erickson, a native of Cedar Falls, Iowa, has been wrestling since third grade. In 1997, his junior year of high school, he was ranked third in the state and the following year, second.

"Wrestling had been my life for as long as I can remember," he said. "It's just like everything in life - you get out of it what you put in."

At University of Northern Iowa, Erickson and Cortez both set their goals to be in the All-American top eight by their senior year.

"It's physically tough," Cortez said, "You really find out your body's capabilities."

Brad Penrith, the University of Northern Iowa wrestling coach, described both of these athletes as dedi-

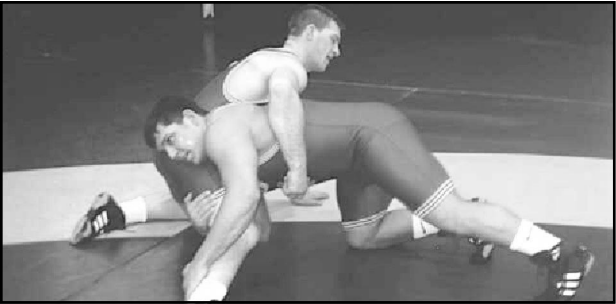
cated, competitive leaders who were capable of working towards the top.

"It's hard being a student athlete," said Penrith. "Dayton and Frank have many obligations to meet outside of wrestling." With these objectives in mind, Erickson and Cortez were in search of tuition assistance to help them through school and in reaching their wrestling goals. Erickson, already in the National Guard and drilling with HHC, 1-133rd Infantry in Waterloo, Iowa, and Cortez also in the Guard and drilling at the 3654th Maintenance unit in Knoxville, found a solution through ROTC.

"Honestly, I joined for the money at first," Erickson said, "But it's more than that now. Knowing that I can be a leader and the experiences that I gain from ROTC is something you can't get anywhere else." Erickson emphasized that, although crowds have never intimidated him, ROTC has given him a kind of confidence that no other college class could offer.

To stay in shape for wrestling, participate in all ROTC events, and maintain their GPA, the two cadets have learned to stay focused and persevere.

"If it was easy, everybody would be doing it. The self-discipline that I've learned from ROTC also helps me out on the mat," Cortez said, "When you are put under stressful situations, you find out what being a leader is all about."



Cadets Dayton Erickson and Frank Cortez from the University of Northern Iowa get a grip on their future as wrestlers and Army officers.

"It's difficult," said Erickson, "But that's life, you have to put a lot of work into anything you really want." Erickson and Cortez spend about 10 hours a week with wrestling, 15 to 20 with ROTC, 15 with work, and the rest, maintaining a 3.0 GPA in academics.

"It's not a job anyone can do," Cortez said, "It's easy to reach the minimum but it takes a stronger person to go beyond that." Cortez said that one of the most valuable lessons he's learned from both wrestling and ROTC is how to react under pressure.

"In every situation," Cortez said, "A person has a choice, to lead or follow - I'd rather lead."



Cadets set on passing APFT

By 2nd Lt. Nathan Mayo

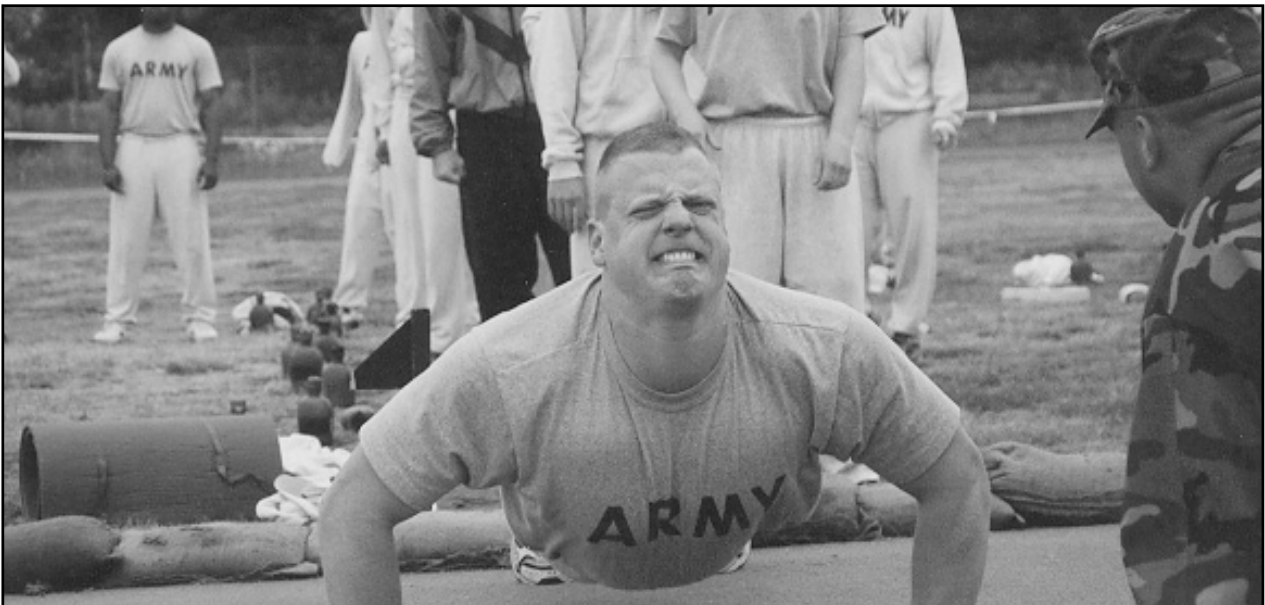
In the cool misty nip of a Fort Lewis morning, cadets from every nook and cranny of America gathered in the spirit of motivation and physical endurance. Their mission was to excel at the Army Physical Fitness test and earn the coveted “Bone.” The Bone is simply a motivational icon, awarded to the platoon that shows the most motivation and esprit de corp. Only one platoon from each company can prevail.

While motivation is key, the highest priority for cadets was passing the test, and most cadets weren’t intent on earning a bare-minimum score. They pushed themselves to the limit. APFT OIC 2nd Lt. Sara Haines said cadets need to reach their personal best. “They should look at the regiments before them and try to achieve the records that have been set.”

As the evaluators introduced themselves, every cadet was focused on the first event, the push-up. Correct performance is essential and the APFT committee made sure the standard was met. All the cadre had to go through the test just to qualify as graders. The committee trains and takes a written exam long before the first cadets arrive at camp and they even perform their own organized PT.

Even with all of their training, APFT Committee members cannot perform exercises for the cadets. As an example, push-ups are a problem for many cadets every year. “Cadets don’t always meet or exceed the vertical plane,” Haines explained, referring to the proper exercise position. “Sometimes, at their home station, push-ups aren’t critiqued as carefully as they are here at camp.”

There was one consolation for the cadets this year. Grading of the push-up and sit-up events is now aided by the addition of an artificial turf surface in the PT pit. Graders were able to view and enforce the APFT standards better. Looking much like a section of a professional football field, the turf was laid after last year’s cadets com-



2nd Lt. Nathan Mayo

One more push-up seems to take all the straining that Cadet Christopher Lee Diedrich from the University of Wisconsin in Oshkosh, has to give.

plained of the uneven and soft sawdust pit they had to use.

“Artificial turf is more beneficial than the sawdust pit of previous years,” explained Haines, “because it allows the cadet to be on a flat surface and the evaluators can give them a more fair evaluation than trying to see through sawdust.

So, have there been any complaints made of the new surface? “No,” Haines said, “In fact we’ve had more people want to come out here and test the pit themselves.”

The push-up event was followed by sit-ups. The sit-up event tests the abdominal and hip-flexor muscles. Groaning and grunting, cadets rose and fell to the constant soundtrack of their squad’s cheering. But even when the last of the sit-up performers knocked out their repetitions,

the rest of the cadets were already beginning to stretch their legs for the two-mile run.

The third and final event of the morning was the run. Cadets marched out to the starting line, then were briefed on the standards, all the while stretching and mentally preparing themselves to push further and faster. The course consists of three laps, rather than running eight laps around a track. For some cadets, this was little change to their schools PT route. “It’s pretty close to what we practice at school,” said Cadet Mathew Zimmerman from the University of Hawaii.

When it was all said and done, the APFT was a rousing success for nearly all cadets. Motivation was high, and so were the scores. The pace and tone of camp had been set.

Learning leadership takes teamwork

By 2nd Lt. James Gordon

How do you cross over several stumps while carrying an ammo crate? This is just one of many questions cadets ponder during the Field Leadership Reaction Course (FLRC). FLRC is an obstacle course that tests leadership skill by forcing cadets to be creative when solving problems.

Encompassing four and one half hours of training at Advanced Camp, FLRC is an opportunity for cadets to use problem-solving skills and work as a team. It’s also an event where cadets receive one of their evaluations by camp cadre. Cadre members observe them as a squad, led by an evaluated cadet, as they attempt to negotiate an obstacle within the required time.

FLRC occurs early in the camp training cycle because it gives cadets a chance to determine their squad’s strengths and weaknesses. The event also serves to bring a squad closer together and foster teamwork.

Each squad leader is given a briefing and 30 minutes to complete the mission. They use their wits, training, troop leading procedures and the talents of their squad. At the end, an After Action Review (AAR) is conducted to give cadets confidence and advice for the future.

Master Sgt. Kevin Jones from the University of Mississippi at Oxford, NCOIC



Cadet Donald Piron, of Clarkson University, receives a mission briefing from a TAC officer at the Field Leadership Reaction Course.

of the site, said that one of the purposes of the course is to “See how well people can come together in a short period of time” to accomplish the mission. Jones noted that leadership is evaluated by watching how a cadet assesses the situation and uses available resources, including directing the other cadets.

Jones also addressed the issue of evaluation uniformity. “The evaluators themselves, execute the course,” he said. “They are looking pretty much at the same thing and through the same lenses ... so we calibrate the evaluators by running the course

ourselves.”

The OIC, Lt. Col. James Waldo of Florida State University, stressed the importance of the AAR and counseling in the development of a future leader. “For some of them (the AAR) is the most important thing. Especially if you have an individual who didn’t show a lot of confidence, that counseling can be carried away and improvement can be made before they get out to Squad STX.”

Several cadets felt FLRC was excellent training. “By giving you a situation and making you react, it improves your criti-



Cadet Edward Bankston of North Georgia College takes an alternative route across a large, wooden beam.

cal thinking skills,” said Cadet Nayari Cameron, of Jackson State University. He also felt getting a good first evaluation at FLRC would set the tone for a great camp performance and give him much more confidence.

Salute Battery fires esprit

By 2nd Lt. James Gordon

Regimental activation ceremonies at the 2001 ROTC Advanced Camp have many dramatic moments, but one of the most exciting is the cadet cannonade. During the ceremony, a three-gun salute is used to punctuate the values of “Duty, Honor and Country.” The task of highlighting these values with thunderous accentuation falls to the gun crew.

The soldiers operating these salute cannons come from various reserve units throughout the United States. They support Advanced Camp as part of their annual training, are trained by a member of the camp staff, then are relieved of duties at the end of their two-week cycle by another group of reservists.



Spc. Elizabeth Bockerstette, from the 21st General Hospital in St. Louis, Mo., said her assignment to the Salute Battery was exciting.

The crew has less than five days to learn the “in and outs” of operating the Salute Battery’s three M1A1, 75 mm (pack) Howitzers. They must load, fire on command, reload and clear the guns, on command and in sequence, for every activation and graduation. Sgt. 1st Class Edward Poulson of Missouri, the NCOIC, noted that malfunctions during a ceremony were possible and the group was trained to handle them efficiently and effectively.

Most of the soldiers found the detail very interesting and thought it was “good training.” They also stressed the importance of earplugs when working with such loud equipment. All in all, the only kinks in the task were occasions where the spent cartridge got stuck. However, quick action



Staff Sgt. Corey Stayton, from the 21st General Hospital in St. Louis, Mo., (left) directs a gun crew as it is lined up with the other two howitzers for a Regimental Activation Ceremony.

learned during crew training put the guns back on track every time.

The gun crew soldiers said they enjoyed the detail. Pvt. 1st Class Clarence Adams, Jr., a student of Nebraska University, summed up his opinion by saying the detail was excellent and that follow-on crews should look forward to it.

Staff Sgt. Corey Stayton, from the 21st General Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri, was the NCOIC for the second Salute Battery crew when Poulson’s crew rotated back to their home station. He said transition from one team to the next was flawless.

“It went very well,” he said, “even though we had one day of preparation before our first ceremony, which also went very well.” He said they had good, hands-on instruction by camp cadre and the prior team. “We picked it right up,” said Stayton, whose regular job is as a patient administrator. “In fact, everyone in this detail is completely out of the artillery field.”

Spc. Elizabeth Bockerstette, for example, is not only assigned to the 21st Gen. Hosp. and is a field medic, as a female soldier she would never be assigned to a gun crew in an Artillery battery. But she wasn’t the least bit fazed by the challenge.

“It’s actually been pretty easy,” she said, “because we had

| Specifications for the M1A1 75 mm (pack) Howitzer | |
|--|-----------------|
| Caliber..... | 75 mm |
| Weight..... | 342 lbs |
| Length..... | 59 in |
| Weight of breech mechanism.... | 121 lbs |
| Firing mechanism..... | Continuous Pull |
| Method of loading..... | Hand |
| Weight of gun and mount..... | 1,440 lbs |



Spc. Josh Stockley and Spc. Elizabeth Bockerstette, both from the 21st General Hospital, remove a spent salute cartridge from the gun after firing.

good instruction, so it looks hard but it’s really not.” In fact, she explained, she quite enjoys the duty. “It is fun,” she said, “in fact it’s pretty exciting. I never shot one of these before and never thought I’d have an opportunity to do it, either.”

The Salute Battery is important for several reasons. It allows supporting reserve units to play a role in an important ceremony of officer development. At the same time they train on the guns. The Salute Battery accents the beginning of training as well as completion at graduation and carries on the tradition of honoring military achievement with the roar of artillery.



2nd Louie
By Bob Rosenburgh



Reserves provide essential camp support



Army Reserve Sgt. Mark Martino, from Morgantown, N.C., helps Cadet Lisa Walts of Lehigh University with zeroing her M-16 Rifle.

By 2nd Lt. James Gordon

Few people realize the amount of coordination and support, or the numbers and types of units and personnel, that go into conducting ROTC Advanced Camp.

In fact, to most cadets, camp seems to be orchestrated entirely by the ROTC cadre they see every day. But in fact, soldiers of the Reserve Components (RC), which are

the Army Reserve and Army National Guard, play a major role in developing the leaders of tomorrow.

Many soldiers from the RC serve their two-week annual training (AT) here in Fort Lewis. They come from all over the nation and include many of the instructors, medical personnel and support staff that perform everyday support duties. More than 4,000 cadets must be processed and

trained at camp. Without the RC soldiers, the Army wouldn't have enough personnel and resources to operate Advanced Camp while still maintaining other Fort Lewis operations.

Many are medical personnel assigned to physical examinations and MEDEVAC operations. "We just about overtake Madigan Hospital," said 1st Sgt. Ranata Bergene, the(NCOIC) of Coordinated Support Headquarters (CSHQ), which is run by the 104th Training Division. During camp, as many as 700 reservists are present at any one time. During the course of the summer, a total of 2,500 part-time soldiers support camp operations.

Reserve unit duties don't stop there. Part-time soldiers are present at Basic Rifle Marksmanship, hand grenade, automatic weapons, and just about every other conceivable training site. On the logistics side, reserve soldiers provide food, transportation, ammunition and many other services. "We've got our hands in just about everything," said Bergene.

Sgt. 1st Class Lester Nicholas, a BRM instructor from Columbia, S.C., sees his role as an instructor in a positive light. "This is my second camp rotation, and I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience," he said. Nicholas added that he didn't mind the repetition and hard work because it paid off in the form of M-16-qualified cadets.

While the hard work of support units isn't acknowledged on a daily basis, reserve units are always there to lend a hand. Without their support, the processing and training of cadets would be virtually impossible.

Camp NCO promotes black history and racial harmony

By Bob Rosenburgh

Staff Sgt. Malik Salaam Charleston West is a man with multiple missions. He's an Assistant Instructor and Logistics NCO at Southwest Texas State University as his regular duties and serves with Cadet Personnel at 2001 ROTC Advanced Camp. But his passion is for history, World War II in particular, but especially for the story of African-Americans and their often-overlooked contributions to our society. In order to make his research into this important part of our heritage available to anyone, West has established a web site and stocked it with a wealth of stories about the struggles and triumphs that pulled black Americans out of slavery and into the mainstream of American society.

"A lot of African-Americans and Americans in general do not know about the contributions blacks made to make America a world superpower," said West. He said he learned about the Civil War's all-black 54th Maine Regiment long before the movie "Glory" made it part of the national consciousness. "My mother had a set of encyclopedias with pictures in them, and one that stuck out in my mind was one of the 'Fighting 54th' attacking Fort Wagner."

West's interest in black history grew with time and he sought all the facts he could find and document, not only about well-known blacks like Crispus Attucks, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., and George Washington Carver. West made an effort to find the obscure black heroes, inventors and leaders who have been partially covered by the sands of time.

His efforts continued, even when stationed in Idaroberstein, Germany, as an American soldier.

"Since we only had one television station and there wasn't always something to watch," he explained, "I realized I needed a hobby." Of course, he simply continued his research, but with renewed vigor, seeking and reading as much as he could. At the same time, his association with the local population brought a hard fact into clear focus for him. "When I was overseas, stationed in Germany or Korea, I noticed that, when someone in the local population referred to an American, they didn't break it down into White-American, Black-American, Hispanic American, Asian-American or anything to do with color." To them,

said West, Americans are simply Americans and he, too, saw that fundamental truth. "Back here at home, everyone is broken down into different groups of people, but overseas they see us all as one. That's when it really started sinking in that we are all Americans first."

"I never look at a person and form opinions based on their color," West continued. "I look at their character." He said the new Army slogan, "an Army of One," means to him that everyone can succeed regardless of race, gender or religious affiliations.

Today, West's writing has been published in several magazines, but it is on the Internet where he finds the best means to get the word out to the most readers.

His website, at <members.aol.com/_ht_a/muntoldhistory/newsletter.html>, holds a treasure-trove of little-known facts in black American history. Featured are such notables as Emily Morgan, who was the true "Yellow Rose of Texas;" McKinney Jones, who created the household refrigerator; Elijah McCoy, whose railroad engine oiler spawned the phrase "The Real McCoy;" and Robert Smalls, who took over the Confederate ship where he worked as a slave and delivered it to Union forces. As his reward, he was made master of the vessel.

West's site is also loaded with historic surprises. How many people know that Oklahoma was almost made a separate all-black territory? Did you know that a slave named Nat Turner led a bloody revolt and was subsequently hanged? Gabriel Posser revolted, too, leading an army of a thousand slaves against Richmond, Va., before they were overwhelmed and killed in 1800. Another revolt came in 1811, when slave Charles Dislondes led another small army against plantations around New Orleans, La. His force grew with each conquered farm, but they were eventually overpowered by militia and Army troops. Every one of them was subsequently executed.

While seeming harsh, these are important parts of events that brought about the eventual freedom now enjoyed by everyone.

"To me, all our history is American history, not to put one group above or below the other, but to show that we each did our share," said West, "and remembering history helps us to avoid repeating the mistakes of the past."



Staff Sgt. Malik Salam Charleston West

Nor are all the stories about struggle and conflict. Many of his vignettes detail invention, exploration and accomplishments achieved by American blacks. A black Moroccan named Estevanico came to North America in 1527 as a slave to Spaniards. From a force of 200 men, he was one of only four to survive their journey from Florida to what is now Mexico City. He was also the key to their success, learning native languages and survival techniques. As a reward, he was appointed to head another expedition and discovered the Arizona territories, although his murder by Zuni Indians allowed later explorers to claim credit.

Another man who gets little of his well-deserved credit is Garret Agustus Morgan. When you go into the confidence chamber at NBC here at camp, don't forget to thank this black American who invented the first gas mask in 1914. Want to learn more? Go to West's Untold African-American History site and broaden your understanding of our nation's story.

"From what I've seen," said West, "the younger African-American community doesn't understand their own history. They are either uninterested or they just don't know. It hurts me to think that the struggle, what people did and how hard it was to gain equality, is often forgotten. On my web site, I try to tell all people how it happened and why they should hold their head high and not accept the status of second-class citizens."





A bar is borne



Al Zdarsky

By Bob Rosenburgh

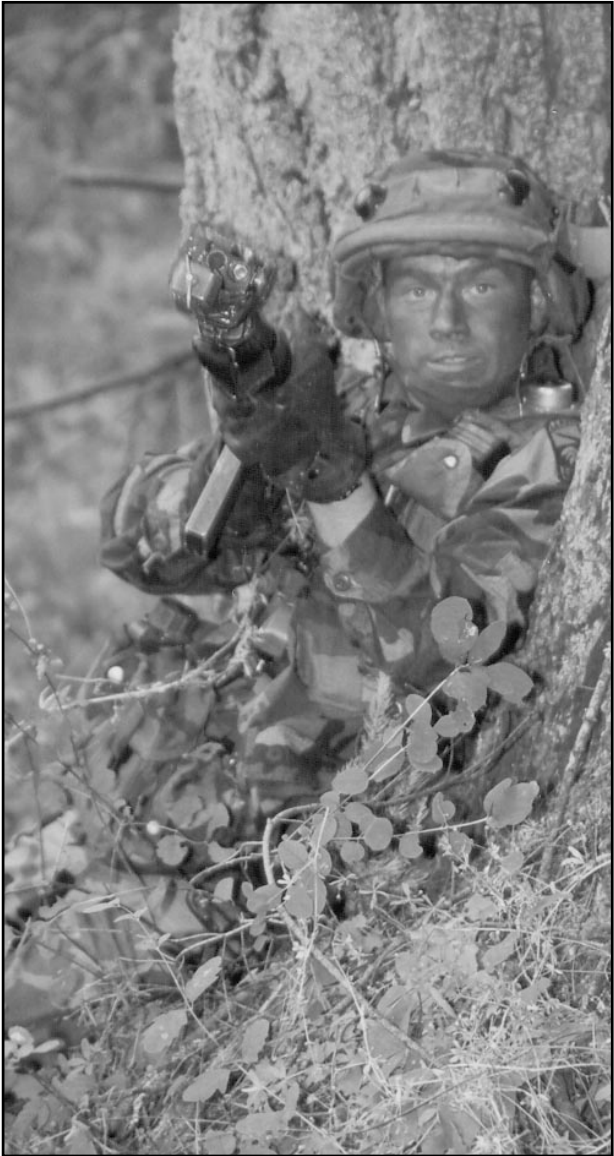
Standing in formation, looking proud and sharp and tall
are a regiment of winners who have seen and done it all.
Though some go back to campus, while others don their bars,
each one is our nation's best and all of them are stars.

They've come across the nation, from every college in the land
that has an ROTC team, so let's strike up the band
and salute the ones who chose the course more difficult than most,
who didn't rest and stood the test and earned the right to boast.

Now they face the banner which, in summer breeze unfurled,
they'll follow to make freedom the watchword of the world.
In rock-strewn craggy mountains, or flaming deserts 'cross the sea
we'll watch tomorrow's leaders hail the cry for liberty.



Staff Sgt. Dale Worrell



Al Zdarsky



Al Zdarsky

Each came down a different path to stand upon this field,
intent upon a common quest and not a one would yield.
Some already stood to arms and now go on to lead,
while others only heard the call from books they chanced to read.

But each one is a hero who has made the final cut
and graduates from camp, and that is finished, but
they now must start again as their golden bars they don,
to make the march for freedom as our nation carries on.

It's their turn now, to fill the books of history with their deeds.
Their stories will be those that all the future leaders read.
In America's hall of champions, they'll line up with them all,
standing in formation, looking proud and sharp and tall.

